

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently Amended)** A ~~device~~ system for treating bone fractures comprising:
a delivery catheter
an expandable device for occupying space within bones, releasably carried by the delivery catheter; and
a means of expanding the device;
whereby the expanded device mechanically fixates the fracture.
2. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~device~~ system of claim 1 wherein the means of expanding the device is an inflatable catheter
3. **(Withdrawn)** The device system of claim 1 wherein the means of expanding the device is an axially compressed elastomeric grommet which expands radially when compressed
4. **(Withdrawn)** The device system of claim 1 wherein the means of expanding the device is the inherent spring force contained within the structure of the expandable device
5. **(Withdrawn)** The device system of claim 1 wherein the means of expansion is self-contained within the expandable device
6. **(Withdrawn)** The device system of claim 5, wherein the means of expansion is a relative movement of the opposing ends of the device
7. **(Withdrawn)** The device system of claim 1, wherein the expanded device is substantially tubular
8. **(Withdrawn)** The device system of claim 1, wherein the expanded device has a substantially cylindrical cross-section
9. **(Currently Amended)** The ~~device~~ system of claim 1, wherein the expanded device joins separated bone segments.
10. **(Currently Amended)** A method for treating bone fractures comprising;
utilizing providing an expandable device for occupying space within a bone segment;
creating an access hole in bone;
disposing the ~~structure~~ expandable device upon a delivery device;
inserting the ~~structure~~ expandable device within the bone segment;

advancing the ~~structure~~ expandable device to the desired location within the bone segment;

activating a portion of the delivery device in order to cause expansion of the expandable device; and ~~structure~~.

hardening a substance within the expandable device after the activating step.

11. **(Withdrawn)** A method of claim 10, to further include deactivating the delivery device and removing from the bone segment

12. **(Original)** A method of claim 10, including the steps of utilizing a delivery device that has an expandable, inflatable portion whereon the expandable device is disposed; and the expansion of the expandable device is accomplished by the inflation of the expandable, inflatable portion of the delivery device.

13. **(Original)** A method of claim 10, including the steps of utilizing a delivery device that has an expandable portion whereon the expandable device is disposed; and the expansion of the expandable device is accomplished by the compression of the expandable portion of the delivery device.

14. **(Withdrawn)** A method of claim 10, wherein the expandable devices are generally tubular in structure and plastically deformed in order to maintain expanded diameter

15. **(Withdrawn)** A method of claim 10, wherein the expandable devices are generally tubular in structure and are mechanically deformed

16. **(Currently Amended)** A device for treating bones comprising;
an expandable tubular device,
a delivery device;

said tubular device removably attached to the delivery device; whereby the delivery device expands the tubular device at the treatment site, whereby the delivery device may be removed leaving the expanded tubular device joins in place to span bone segments.

17. **(Currently Amended)** The device as in claim 16 wherein said device comprises is a tubular mesh.

18. **(Withdrawn)** The device as in claim 16 wherein said device has multiple splines.

19. **(Withdrawn)** The device as in claim 16 wherein said device is a coil.

20. **(Withdrawn)** The device as in claim 16 wherein said device is a slotted tube.
21. **(Withdrawn)** The device as in claim 16 wherein electrical energy is delivered
22. **(Withdrawn)** The device as in claim 16 wherein the device has a coating
23. **(Withdrawn)** A device for treating fractured bones comprising:
 - a self-expandable tubular device;
 - a delivery device;
 - tubular device within the delivery device;
 - said device combination advanced to desired location;
 - said tubular device released from delivery device at desired location; whereby the tubular device expands at treatment site, whereby the expanded tubular device joins and fixates bone fracture.
24. **(Withdrawn)** A device as in claim 23, wherein the stress applied to the bone from the radially expanded device enhances healing of the fracture.